

**Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice  
Grand Tower Bldg, Dempsey Room  
May 15, 2009**

**Members Present:**

Mr. Leonard Dixon  
Dr. Joan Doughty  
Honorable William Ervin  
Jeffrey Fink  
Ms. Amanda Good  
Ms. Carol Harton  
Mr. Jeriel Heard, MCJJ Chair  
Ms. Marilyn Latterman  
Ms. Ashley Miller  
Mr. Brian Philson  
Mr. William Schramm  
Mr. Joseph Underwood  
Honorable Elizabeth Weaver

**Members Absent:**

Ms. Chiquita McKenzie-Bennett  
Ms. Barbara Levin-Bergman  
Ms. Jamie Reed – Youth member  
Ms. Kenyatta Stephens  
Honorable Matthew Switalski  
Mr. Gary Walker  
Mr. Clarence Williams

**BJJ Director and Staff Present:**

John Evans  
Janie Soliz  
Jeanette Scroggins  
Lawana Jarrett  
Jeffrey Wenzel  
Shirley Winston

**Guests Present:**

Paul Elam, PPA  
S. Kim Purlee  
Matt Kaley  
Nedie Way

**Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Jeriel Heard at 9:45 a.m. Thirteen members were present; a quorum was reached.

Jeriel welcomed guests, Michelle Day and her mother Mary Welch from the Ruby Girls Program of Detroit, Michigan.

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

The February 27, 2009 minutes and the May 15, 2009 agenda were adopted as written.

**BJJ Update**

John Evans indicated the 6 furloughs days were currently impacting all of BJJ but no further central office cuts were expected. Parmenter House, a juvenile half-way house in Bay City is expected to close; all management there is retiring. Residential Detention Support Services (RDSS) will stay intact for now. If Nokomis (approximately 2 hours from Lansing) stays open the department will have to look at housing girls there (due the increased number of girls requiring secure housing due to mental health issues. The only other secure operated girls facility, Bay Pines in Escanaba is located in northern Michigan (approximately 8-10 hours away).

The House 2010 budget did not include any further closures; however, the Senate budget proposes to close Shawano and Nokomis.

John also reported that Maxey is currently being occupied by the Department Of Corrections (DOC) which have staff that operate on a para-military system of treatment. DOC has agreed to share the cost for maintenance, food service, and kitchen staff. It is expected that Maxey youth will be moved to the newly renovated Green Oaks Center/BJJ Training Center across the street in May of 2010. DOC will pick up the costs for all renovations.

John reported that there are security issues at the current BJJ facilities and that a proposal will be submitted to the committee for consideration for at least \$85,000 to update the security system. Jeriel asked if DHS has taken any official position on the need for legislation to address truancy and educational neglect. John reported that Terry Gilbert has assigned someone from Child Welfare to convene a teleconference with Jeanette Scroggins and the legislative/data collection committee to discuss impact on delinquency. There was some discussion regarding the issue of a juveniles age and competency in determining whether a youth should have to stand trial. Jeriel suggested that Special Emphasis chairs, Jeffrey Fink and Judge Ervin and John Evans work together to leverage Child Care Fund dollars to fund mental health services for youth who if deemed incompetent to stand trial has his/her case dropped.

### **JJDPA Budget**

Jeanette Scroggins referred the committee to a spreadsheet in their packets regarding expenditures of grant funds to date. She stated that even though the spending had been slow she expected that they will spend the remaining balance of the 2006 federal award. The "*Correct Course*" project in Wayne County would eat up a large chunk of the dollars left on that award. The contracting process, while improved, was still the reason for the slow spending.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

#### **Special Emphasis Committee**

Jeff Fink requested approval to fund two Girls Circle Training sessions at \$20,000 each.

The sessions will be two days and will be held in Northern and Southern Michigan .

Girls Circle is a training model that has been approved by OJJDP as a best practice model for dealing with high-risk and residential delinquents.

Jeriel Heard made a motion to approve \$20,000 for the Girls Circle Training. Justice Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Jeff Fink discussed the MPHI Reentry program model and how youth in the juvenile justice system need services available to them when they return to the community. Jeff stated that services for youth need to start in facilities before youth are released. The Reentry proposal puts staff in facilities to help prepare youth for reentering the community. The Reentry proposal request is for \$431,000 over 3 years. The Special Emphasis committee is requested approval for funding of the proposal with the following conditions: Less money than what is written to be used on administration and more on youth services. 25% to administrative cost and 75% on direct services for youth. A motion was made to approve his funding and it was unanimously approved.

Judge Ervin requested funding to support a Federal Grant Unit, *Tips on Grant Writing*, workshop for the current Title II and Title V grantees on June 30, 2009. He requested funding for a BJJ Spring Training workshop and a fall workshop in the northern part of the state. He expected the workshops to reach 150 people at each site. A total of \$6,000 is being requested to fund both workshops. Brian Philson motioned for the approval and Justice Elizabeth Weaver seconded his motion

Jeffrey Fink stated that truancy, drug courts, and other initiatives not yet decided will be the focus of future funding plans.

### Jail Removal Committee

Paul Elam of Public Policy Associates (PPA), reported on the number of law enforcement and jailing facility violations (a copy of the reports were included in the packets). PPA would be working with those agencies found in violation to achieve compliance. If necessary Paul will request that Sheriff Underwood become involved in a meeting with sheriffs of those counties found in violation. Paul will be attending the Sheriff's Association meeting in Frankenmuth to present on state and federal law prohibiting the secure detainment of status offenders; to encourage the removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and the need to separate juveniles by sight and sound from adult inmates.

### Delinquency Prevention Committee

Joey Latterman reported that the committee would be spending \$652,500 to fund five (5) Model Program grants and four (4) Title V grants. Joan Doughty provided an update on the Title V Planning Grants. She reported that they have been working to reach communities with the highest need. Regional conferences were conducted at five locations throughout the state to provide technical assistance to communities in the top 12 neediest counties. Thirty-six individuals attended the conferences. A handout of the risk factor rankings with the top 12 neediest counties and a map of the five conference sites was distributed to the MCJJ members.

### DMC subcommittee

No report. A meeting will be held later to decide final funding initiatives.

### **Presentation of the 2009 Crime Analysis and Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice Reports**

Paul Elam of PPA presented a power point presentation of the DHS Child Welfare improvement recommendations. He discussed the four principal priorities of the task force the major findings and recommendations of the crime analysis. He stated that the crime analysis is now a web-based report and will be accessible to anyone in the state via the DHS website. Jeffrey Fink made a motion to approve the 2009 Crime Analysis Report and Amy Good seconded the motion.

Paul stated that he would be working with Terri Gilbert of the Child Welfare Institute of DHS to coordinate any data efforts requiring funding.

### **Public Comment**

Jeriel Heard asked for public comments. Matt Kaley, representing the Michigan Juvenile Detention Association, was given approval by the committee to attend MCJJ meetings occasionally. He would like the Michigan Juvenile Detention Association (MJDA) to be informed and up to date with what is going on at the state level. He informed the committee that Kalamazoo would be opening a new detention center in June and will be hosting a tour.

Michelle Day of Ruby Girls, a girls program of Wayne County, made a presentation and requested funding for their- Project U Turn program. The week-end program serves girls 13-18 and includes a variety of activities including arts and crafts, community service. A boys program was launched last month for 11-14 year olds. Michelle is seeking funding from BJJ to help the program move forward. She is requesting \$25,000. Jeriel Heard stated that staff would provide guidance to her in submitting a proposal.

### **Future Conferences/Meetings**

A May 15, 2009 meeting will replace those meetings scheduled for March and June. The committee agreed to join the Governor's Task Force for their annual summit meeting in Traverse City, September 9-11, 2009. The need for an October 16, meeting would be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.